



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102
www.bpu.state.nj.us

DIVISION OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

PREHEARING ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF THE BOARD'S REVIEW OF THE
CLASSIFICATION OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY'S
DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICES ("DAS") AS
COMPETITIVE AND ASSOCIATED SERVICE QUALITY

DOCKET NO. TX06010057

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY VERIZON NEW
JERSEY INC. FOR THE RECLASSIFICATION OF)
EXISTING RATE REGULATED SERVICES –)
DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE SERVICES AS)
COMPETITIVE SERVICES

DOCKET NO. TT97120889

SERVICE LIST ATTACHED

BY THE BOARD:

BACKGROUND

At its February 1, 2006 Agenda Meeting, the Board of Public Utilities ordered that a prehearing conference be convened in the above captioned matter, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:1-13.1. This conference was held on February 16, 2006, after notice to the parties in the prior matter as well as all potentially interested parties. In attendance were representatives of Verizon New Jersey, Inc. ("VNJ"), the Division of the Ratepayer Advocate ("RPA"), and Board Staff, as well as counsel for the Board. Upon consideration of the positions put forth by all parties in attendance, Board Staff makes, and the Board adopts, the following recommendations as to the prehearing requirements set out in the regulations.

1. NATURE OF PROCEEDINGS AND ISSUES TO BE RESOLVED:

This is a contested matter flowing from a prior stipulation setting forth VNJ's Directory Assistance Services ("DAS") as competitive and placing into effect a rate cap and four free DAS calls per month for residential customers. This rate cap and free call allowance is set to expire by July 1, 2006 unless the Board takes action, as will be noted in this and the companion Order issued by the Board.

The nature of the hearing shall address the issues dealing directly with the competitive status of VNJ's DAS, the price caps, free call allocation, and any other DAS related issues that the Board deems appropriate, as well as service quality issues associated with the automated directory assistance service.

2. PARTIES AND ATTORNEYS OR REPRESENTATIVES

For Petitioners	Richard Chapkis, Esq. General Counsel Verizon New Jersey, Inc 540 Broad Street Newark, NJ 07102
	Hesser G. McBride, Jr., Esq. Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A. 90 Woodbridge Center Drive Suite 900, Box 10 Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958
For the Division of the Ratepayer Advocate	Christopher White, Esq. Deputy Ratepayer Advocate Division of the Ratepayer Advocate 31 Clinton Street P.O. Box 46005 Newark, NJ 07101
For Board of Public Utilities Staff	Jeff Slutzky, DAG Division of Law 124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor Newark, NJ 076101
Board of Public Utilities Staff Members	Anthony Centrella, Director Division of Telecommunications Carol Artale, Esq. Counsel's Office Harold Bond Division of Telecommunications New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

3. SPECIAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AS TO NOTICE OF HEARING:

One public hearing is scheduled at a date and location to be announced. A draft notice is to be circulated to the parties by the petitioners, and this requirement HEREBY SUPERCEDES the notice requirement set forth in the Board's February 2, 2006 Order under this caption.

4. SCHEDULE OF HEARING DATES, TIME AND PLACE:

Hearings will be held on July 25 and 26, 2006, before Commissioner Frederick F. Butler. Hearings will commence at 10:00 a.m. in the 8th Floor hearing room of the Board of Public Utilities, Two Gateway Center, Newark, New Jersey.

5. STIPULATIONS:

None.

6. SETTLEMENT:

Settlement conference(s) among the parties are encouraged and may be convened at the convenience of the parties without prior approval or knowledge of the Board.

7. AMENDMENTS TO PLEADINGS:

None.

8. CASE EVENTS AND DATE FOR COMPLETION:

The Board has carefully considered the scheduling proposals set forth on in informal basis by the parties in attendance at the Prehearing Conference of February 16, 2006. Based upon those submissions, as well as the needs of the Board, the following schedule has been set:

Prehearing conference	February 16, 2006
Public notice	TBA
Petitioner's prefiled testimony	March 31, 2006
Last date for discovery requests on Petitioner's prefiled testimony*	April 14, 2006
Last date for responses to discovery requests on Petitioner's prefiled testimony	April 28, 2006
Reply prefiled testimony	May 12, 2006
Last date for discovery requests on reply prefiled testimony	May 26, 2006
Last date for responses to discovery requests on reply prefiled testimony	June 9, 2006
Petitioner's prefiled rebuttal testimony	June 23, 2006
Last date for discovery requests on rebuttal testimony	June 30, 2006

Last date for discovery responses on rebuttal testimony

July 10, 2006

Public Hearing

TBA

Evidentiary Hearings

July 25 & 26, 2006

Initial Briefs

August 16, 2006

Reply Briefs

August 31, 2006

Board Decision

Expected October 2006

*Discovery may commence immediately

9. ORDER OF PROOFS:

1. Petitioner
2. Ratepayer Advocate
3. Others (if necessary)
4. Board Staff

10. EXHIBITS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION:

None at this time.

11. EXHIBITS MARKED IN EVIDENCE:

None at this time.

12. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FACT AND EXPERT WITNESSES:

Petitioner	1-2 (approximately)
Ratepayer Advocate	1-2 (approximately)
Board Staff	None contemplated at this time.

13. MOTIONS CONTEMPLATED, PENDING OR GRANTED:

Currently, the only outstanding motion is a request for the admission, *pro hac vice*, of Richard A. Chapkis, Esq., on behalf of VNJ. No objection having been received, and based upon the

uncontroverted assertions made in the application, the Board HEREBY FINDS good cause for the admission based upon the specialized knowledge of telecommunications law and HEREBY GRANTS the application, subject to the requirements set forth in the application.

14. OTHER SPECIAL MATTERS:

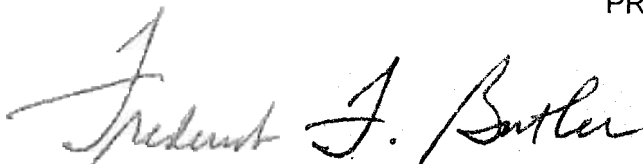
None.

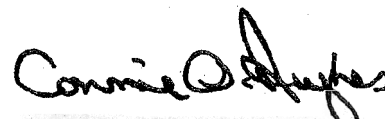
Therefore, upon consideration of the forgoing, the Board HEREBY ISSUES this prehearing order. The Board FURTHER ORDERS that Commissioner Butler, as the presiding Commissioner, is HEREBY AUTHORIZED to modify the schedule set by this Order without the need for full Board approval, subject to subsequent Board ratification.

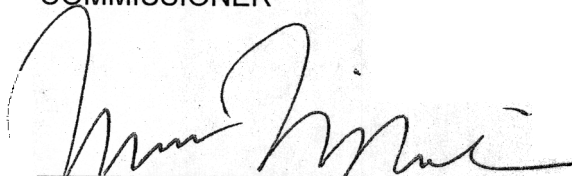
DATED: 3/22/06


BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


JEANNE M. FOX
PRESIDENT


FREDERICK F. BUTLER
COMMISSIONER


CONNIE O. HUGHES
COMMISSIONER

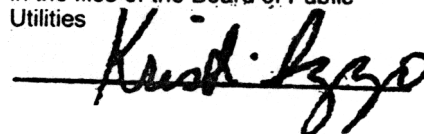

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


CHRISTINE V. BATOR
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within
document is a true copy of the original
in the files of the Board of Public
Utilities



SERVICE LIST

Richard Chapkis, Esq.
General Counsel
Verizon New Jersey, Inc
540 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

Hesser G. McBride, Jr., Esq.
Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer P.A.
90 Woodbridge Center Drive
Suite 900, Box 10
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958

Anthony Centrella, Director
Board of Public utilities
Division of Telecommunications
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102

John DeLuca
Harold Bond
Board of Public utilities
Division of Telecommunications
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102

Carol Artale, Esq.
Legal Specialist
Board of Public Utilities
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102

Chris White, Esq.
New Jersey Division of the Ratepayer
Advocate
31 Clinton Street
P.O. Box 46005
Newark, NJ 07101

Kenneth J. Sheehan
Jeff Slutzky
Deputy Attorneys General
State of New Jersey, Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101